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**Tennessee River Missionary
Baptist Association**

v. 1. 1890

v. 2. 1891

v. 3. 1892

v. 4. 1893


v. 5. 1895

v. 6. 1897

v. 7. 1898

v. 8: 1899

v. 9: 1900



MINUTES
OF THE
FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Tennessee River Baptist
Association,

HELD WITH
Hollywood Church, September 28, 29,
30, October 1, 1900.

The next session of the Association will be held with the
Trenton Baptist Church, Trenton, Jackson County,
commencing on Friday after the Fourth
Sunday in September, 1901, at 10
o'clock a. m.

OFFICERS.

P. BROWN, Moderator **Hollywood, Ala.**
Jno. T. Richards, Clerk..... **Pisgah, Ala.**
MILTON ROACH, Treasurer..... **Fackler, Ala.**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

P. Brown, Jno. T. Richards, J. H. Roach, R. Howell, W. L.
Crawford, Milton Roach, J. R. Lamb, M. Hill,
J. J. Cunningham, C. Howell, D. S.
Collins, J. H. Fuller, Jos.
Smalley, W. B.
Campbell.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.

Brown, P., Hollywood, Ala.
Crawford, W. L., Tupelo, Ala.
Collins, D. S., Carns, Ala.
Caves, Thomas, Pisgah, Ala.
Eaves, J. A.
Hill, M., Scottsboro, Ala.
Hill, Jos., Scottsboro, Ala.
Howell, R., Nila, Ala.
Howell, Crawford, Francisco, Ala.
Higginbotham, R. M., Mud Creek, Ala.
Hastings, S. M., Larkinsville, Ala.
Irvin, L. B., Henegar, Ala.
Lamb, J. R., Nila, Ala.
Morris, G. W., Daughtery, Ala.
McCloud, James, Pisgah, Ala.
McCarrell, J. F., Hollywood, Ala.
Richards, Jno. T., Pisgah.
Roach, C. T., Pisgah, Ala.
Varnell, W. H., Hollywood, Ala.

PROGRAM.

FRIDAY, FIRST DAY.

Introductory Sermon at 10 o'clock a. m. by C. T. Starkey, with G. Morris' alternate.

ORGANIZATION.

1. Reading of letters and enrollment of delegates.
2. Election of officers.
3. Reception of new churches.
4. Inviting correspondents and visitors of same faith to seats.
5. Appointment of special committees.
6. (1.) Religious services.
7. (2.) Obituaries.
8. (3.) Finance.
9. Appoint new executive board.
10. Appoint standing committees.
11. Select place of holding meeting of Association.
12. Select brother to preach annual sermon and his alternate.
13. Report of standing committees.
14. (1.) Associational work.
15. (2.) State missions.
16. (3.) Home missions.
17. (4.) Foreign missions.
18. (5.) Ministerial and denominational education.
19. (6.) Woman's work.
20. (7.) Religious literature.
21. (8.) Sunday school.
22. (9.) Temperance.
23. (10.) Report of executive board.
24. Miscellaneous business.
25. Resolutions.
26. Adjournment.

INTRODUCTORY SERVICES.

HOLLYWOOD, ALA., September 28, 1900.

The delegates composing the Forty-Third Annual Session of the Tennessee River Association of Missionary Baptist met with Hollywood Church, Jackson County, Alabama. on Friday, September 28th, 1900, at 11 a. m. Introductory services opened by singing "I want to be a worker in the vineyard of the Lord."

Brother J. R. Lamb, who was elected to preach the introductory sermon, not being present, Brother R. Howell, alternate, preached the introductory sermon. The brother read as a lesson a part of the 25th chapter of St. Matthew. Prayer by R. M. Higginbotham. Song, "There is a fountain filled with blood."

The brother preached the introductory sermon from the text "Watch, therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh." "For the kingdom of Heaven is as a man traveling into a far country who called his own servants and delivered unto them his goods." 13th and 14th verses of the chapter read. The brother preached a strong sermon, and laid the work plainly before us in regard to the duties resting upon us as believers in the Lord. At the conclusion of the sermon Rev. D. S. Collins led the congregation in singing "How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord."

The Moderator, P. Brown, announced that the Association was ready for business and asked to know the pleasure of the body. A motion was entertained and carried to adjourn for fifteen minutes.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1 p. m. the Association was called together by singing. Called to order by the Moderator, P. Brown, who read the 15th division of Psalms and led the Association in prayer.

The Moderator appointed as reading clerks G. W. Chapman and R. L. Butler.

The following churches responded by letters and delegates:

1. Bethel—S. R. Corn, A. D. Gist, J. W. Matthews, A. McCarver, J. E. Hammon.
2. Beech Grove—E. J. D. Kennedy.
3. Bethany—A. Shelton, B. M. Maynor, J. W. Kuykendall.
4. Centennial—Not represented.
5. Cave Spring—Isaac M. Sentell, Isaac Matthews.
6. Center Point—J. P. McLendon, W. J. Cunningham, J. P. Vaughan.
7. Ebenezer—Not represented.
8. Freedom—J. T. Hinshaw, John Cooper, W. P. Hall, R. L. Butler.
9. Friendship—A. P. Womack, J. R. Fields, M. Roach, D. S. Rorex, M. R. Middleton.
10. Gurley—W. H. Williamson.
11. Goose Pond—F. J. Mills.
12. Hollywood—James McCarrell, John Bryant, W. H. Harris, G. W. Chapman, A. F. Bryant.
13. Harmony—John G. Sanders, J. B. Anderson, John E. Campbell, Miles Moody.
14. Larkinsville—Aaron W. Woosley, Sister W. R. Larkin.
15. Mt. Nebo—J. J. Cunningham, W. A. Howell.
16. Mt. Zion—M. M. Chisenhall, John Maynor.
17. Mt. Pisgah—John Thomas, D. W. Bradford, Frank Jar-nagin, Jesse Ambrester, J. B. Ellis, Jos. Smalley, Jerre M. Roden.
18. Mt. Carmel—F. M. Williams.
19. Mt. Moriah—A. B. Womack, T. C. Howell, T. M. Crow.
20. Mt. Ararat—By letter.
21. Mt. Tabor—J. H. Fuller, J. R. Buckner.
22. Mountain Grove—Not represented.
23. New Hope—J. F. Bell, G. M. Rorex, R. Devers, J. F. Terry, G. R. Terry.

24. Scottsboro—Virgil Bouldin, E. W. Garland, W. W. Howard.
25. Trenton—R. G. Kennedy, W. A. Wilbourn, H. A. Webb, S. M. Summers.
26. Campbell's Chapel—Andy Campbell, R. L. Burrow.
27. Helton Memorial—P. A. Carlisle, W. A. Coffey.

After the reading of the letters and delegates enrolled, a motion was entertained to elect the officers of the Association by ballot.

By motion of Bro. R. L. Butler the rules were suspended and the old officers were elected by acclamation, P. Brown, Moderator, W. L. Crawford, Assistant Moderator and Jno. T. Richards, Clerk.

The Moderator called the Association to order, offering an opportunity for membership to churches organized since last Association. Campbell's Chapel and Helton Memorial, organized since last Association, applied for membership. The reports being favorable, on motion the churches were received, names of the delegates enrolled, Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship.

Upon call for visitors and correspondents, Rev. A. J. Parker from Liberty Baptist Association, Limestone County, Alabama, responded, and was invited to a seat with us; also J. L. Larkin and C. L. Lovelady, of Paint Rock River Association (colored) of Jackson County, Alabama, responded and were invited to seats with us, and to take part in our deliberations.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

On Religious Services, to report on call—The pastor and deacons of Hollywood church.

On Finance—W. H. Harris, S. R. Corn.

On Obituaries—Milton Roach, John G. Sanders.

The Committee on Religious Services reported that Rev. A. J. Parker would preach at the Hollywood church tonight; Shipp's Chapel, Jos. Hill; Hurt's Chapel, C. T. Starkey; Kennemer's Chapel, James McCloud; Colored Church, Hollywood, D. S. Collins.

On motion the Association adjourned until tomorrow morning 9:00 a. m. Benediction by the Moderator.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Friday, September 29th, 1900.

Association convened pursuant to adjournment, prayer by Bro. G. W. Morris. Minutes of yesterday's proceedings read and adopted. Bro. C. T. Starkey was permitted to take the floor and speak in the interest of the Foreign Mission and Home and Field Journals. After the address, the following committees were announced by the Assistant Moderator, W. L. Crawford, to report at our next annual session:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Associational work—Members of the Executive Board.
State Missions—C. T. Starkey, R. L. Butler.
Home Missions—J. H. Roach, A. P. Womack.
Foreign Missions—G. Bouldin, W. H. Varnell.
Womens' Work—Sister Maggie Callan, Sister J. O. Lipscomb.
Sunday School—Jno. T. Richards, J. P. Cunningham.
Religious Literature—James McCloud, G. W. Morris.
Ministerial and Denominational Education—Virgil Bouldin, Charles Beard.
Temperance—M. Hill, D. S. Collins.
Orphanage—Milton Roach, W. R. Middleton.

The Moderator called for letters from churches which had not been reported on yesterday. Bro. R. L. Butler read a letter from Larkinsville church.

On motion the letter was received and delegates invited to seats with the body; also a letter from the Mt. Carmel church was read by W. L. Crawford and delegates enrolled and invited to seats with the body.

The Moderator called for reports from the standing committees in their regular order. The committees not being ready to report according to program, on motion the program was changed, and the report on Orphanage was read by M. Roach.

REPORT OF ORPHANS' HOME.

We, your committee on Orphans Home, would submit the following: We find from report made to Alabama Baptist State Convention, that since the home started at Evergreen there

has been received in all 53 boys and 69 girls, a total of 122 homeless, helpless children have been provided with shelter, food and raiment. There is now in this home 22 boys and 37 girls wholly dependent upon the charity of our people. We are informed that it requires, besides the clothing and other necessaries contributed, about \$10 per day to sustain this home. We deem it unnecessary, dear brethren, to make any special plea for this enterprise, for cold indeed must be the heart that does not beat in love and sympathy with dependent little ones.

We especially recommend that our pastors present the claims of this institution to their various churches and that they take at least one collection during the year for this purpose, but more especially and hopefully do we call the attention of our Ladies' Aid Societies to the importance of this work. Let us all remember that he that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

MILTON ROACH.

W. B. CAMPBELL.

On motion to adopt the report, Bro. Milton Roach and Rev. J. A. Eaves spoke on the subject in a convincing manner. Report adopted.

The report on Foreign Missions was read by W. L. Crawford.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The work of Foreign Missions has its origin in the commission given to the Apostles by the Lord Jesus Christ, who has all power in Heaven and earth, and is therefore the rightful and sovereign head over all things to the churches. We claim to be His church. If we can establish this claim then we must assume this responsibility, that is, preaching the gospel among all the nations of the earth. The Church of Christ, which is His visible body, is purely representative and executive. We are to represent Him in all the nations of the earth by declaring Him the only and all-sufficient Savior of all men, through the merits of His atoning blood; as His executors we are to execute His laws faithfully in all the departments of Church work, and certainly the preaching of the gospel to all the nations of the earth and to every creature of the Adamic race, is a matter of the very

first importance to the Church of Christ. To deny or refuse to faithfully carry out this great commission certainly invalidates our claims as being the Church of Christ.

If then, as individuals, we refuse and fail to carry out this work, it follows that we are not Christians in fact, only so in name. With regard to present work on foreign fields we are happy to report that we have well-established fields of labor in Southern, Central and Northern China; also Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico and Japan. Through the consecration of our missionaries and the blessings of God, the work has been a great blessing to those nations who were in heathen darkness and bound by the fetters of iniquity and chained to chariot wheels of idoltry and surrounded by the worst and most cruel forms of social customs. Thousands and millions of those souls are going down annually to death and deepest despair. God so loved them that He gave His Son to die for their sins that they through Him might have life. (John 3:16). Jesus said, 'as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. (John 20:21). He said, Go into all nations. (Matt. 28:19-20). Tell it to every creature. (Mark 16:15-16). Let every lover of Christ forward this work. Jesus said, If you love me you will keep my commandments. For particulars and results of our work on foreign fields we refer you to the Foreign Mission Journal, published at Richmond, Va. Respectfully submitted.

W. L. CRAWFORD,

P. BROWN.

On motion to adopt the report, C. T. Starkey and Virgil Bouldin spoke on the subject in a forcible and convincing manner. Pending the discussion the Moderator asked to know the pleasure of the body in regard to preaching at 11 o'clock. Brother Virgil Bouldin offered a motion that some one be selected by the body to preach a sermon on Foreign Missions. On motion Rev. W. L. Crawford was selected. On motion the Association adjourned for 15 minutes.

The Association was called together by singing. The brother read from the first chapter of Acts. Prayer by Brother R. Howell. Text 8th verse 1st chapter of Acts: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

The brother spoke at some length upon the subject in a convincing manner. At the conclusion of the sermon the discussion of the subject was continued by Rev. A. J. Parker, M. Roach and J. H. Fuller.

The report was amended, on motion of Milton Roach, by adding:

"Resolved, That the pastors of the Churches of this Association make a special collection each month, or at least every three months, in the next Associational year, for Foreign Missions." On motion the report, as amended, was adopted.

REPORT ON ASSOCIATIONAL WORK.

Read by A. P. Womack, Chairman, as follows:

Your committee on Associational Work submit, that no matter of more serious concern is presented to the Tennessee River Association than the Mission work of the Association. By the consideration that we have given this subject we conclude that the work performed is not equal to the demands of the commission "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," etc. Causes are now coming to render further postponement impossible if we ever expect successfully to do what needs to be done. The future doctrinal and religious education of the people of this Association in all of the destitute places will be accomplished by other people who do not preach as Baptists do. What then is lacking? What do the people need? We think that they lack a Christianity vitalized by missions, and brought into sympathy with the onward movement of God's kingdom in the world. This need of the people should be supplied by sending missionaries into all the destitute places to preach the word, and to give all their time and energy to the work. How can they be sustained while doing this work? We think it could be done by a proper divide of all the contributions made by the churches of the Association. We find from the Executive Committee's report for the Association for the year 1898-99, that all mission work done was 153 days, and paid for the work \$173. Now this seems to be a small amount of work for this Association. There are twenty-nine churches in this Association, and if they would so divide all their contributions as to make an average of \$25 to each church the aggregate would be \$720. Would not that amount of money sustain two missionaries in the field that might preach the gospel to our

people all over the mountains and valleys of this Association? Now, brethren, we cannot for a moment question the command "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," then let us rise up and do our duty to our people of the Association that they may be fitted and qualified to do a mighty work in the foreign field. Respectfully,

A. P. WOMACK,
J. A. INGLIS.

A motion was made to adopt the report, upon which Brothers A. P. Womack, W. L. Crawford, D. S. Collins, Thomas Caves and A. J. Parker made good talks. Report adopted.

The committee on Devotional Exercises made report as follows:

Brother C. T. Starkey to preach at this church tonight at 7:30; Thomas Caves, Kennamer's Chapel; J. A. Eaves, Hurt's Chapel; D. S. Collins, Shipp's Chapel; W. L. Crawford with M. Hill, Hollywood Church (col). A letter from Mt. Carmel Church was presented and read by W. L. Crawford; delegates enrolled.

HOME MISSION.

Report on Home Missions was read by Brother W. H. Varnell, as follows:

This has been an eventful year with the Home Board. Great political changes, enlargement of territory, influx of foreigners and newisms springing up and spreading among our people, have made it necessary for the Board to make a more urgent appeal for larger support. We urge this Association to largely increase her efforts along this line. The Board is pushing the work, first, in the mountains of Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, second, among the negroes, third, in Cuba, fourth, on our frontiers. We suggest that Cuba's peculiar condition demands especial attention this year. The following facts show, in part, what the Board has done during the past conventional year: Six hundred and fifty-three missionaries have been employed. They baptized 6,552 converts; additions to the church 12,983. Alabama had 22 missionaries in the field, baptizing 220 converts. Amount raised and expended on the home field was \$65,818.81. Total cash received from States \$61,794.58. Of this amount Alabama contributed \$9,704.46. Our present Secretary is Dr. T. H. Keerfoot, Louisville, Ky. We urge a more

hearty co-operation in a practical way in raising and sending in cash in larger quantities. Respectfully submitted,

W. H. VARNELL,
S. R. CORN.

A motion was made to adopt the report, and, after being discussed in an able manner by Elder W. H. Varnell, was adopted.

The report on Denominational and Ministerial Education was called for by the Moderator. The committee not being present, a motion was made by W. L. Crawford and entertained that the Association adopt the report of last year, 1899, which was read by W. L. Crawford and adopted.

The Committee on State Missions submitted their report which was read by C. T. Starkey.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

We, your committee, submit the following:

Brethren, from what information we can gather of State Missions is that the cause is a great feature in our work. There are destitutions that come under the auspices of the State Board that the Associations cannot reach; building churches, supplying pastors, etc. As in the case of Alabama City—there the State Board has contributed means to build a church and are now supplying them with preaching. Doubtless there be those who have criticised our Board for sending missionaries among you, but we want to emphasize the fact that our missionaries, in their faithful labors, have proven themselves to be teachers and evangelists, for their tours throughout the State have been instructive educational campaigns that will yet prove to be "bread cast upon the waters," that will be gathered up after many days by the children of those to whom they have ministered.

This question of missions is one that vitally concerns every true child of God. The problem of saving this great nation would be solved if every State would see to it that all within its confines had the gospel preached to them. May the Lord help us to do more for this State Board. We urge that the pastors take collections for State Missions in connection with their other contributions.

Respectfully,

M. HILL,
Chairman.

On motion adopted without discussion.

A motion was entertained and carried that the Association select the place and time of holding our next annual session and the brother to preach the introductory sermon, New Hope, Cave Spring, Trenton and Bethel having applied for it by letter. After considerable discussion as to the place and time of next meeting, Trenton Church was selected and the first Friday after the fourth Sunday in September, 1901, at 10 o'clock a. m., by acclamation.

Brethren C. T. Starkey, J. R. Lamb and G. W. Morris were placed in nomination to preach the introductory sermon. Bro. C. T. Starkey was chosen to preach the introductory sermon with Bro. G. W. Morris as alternate.

Several motions and a good deal of discussion upon change of time as to holding the Association was indulged in by the brethren, resulting in no change except the hour, which reads 10 o'clock a. m. Take notice and govern yourself accordingly. A motion was made by W. L. Crawford and adopted voting the support and endorsement of this Association to the North Alabama Collegiate Baptist Institute and Normal School, Trinity, Morgan County, Ala.

A motion was made to repeal a resolution that was passed by the Association at Beech Grove Church, 1898, that all delegates, ministers, as well as laymen, leaving the Association before adjournment without leave, the names of such delegates shall be dropped from the roll and not appear in the minutes. After considerable discussion upon the subject, by rising vote, the Association said no repeal.

By motion of Milton Roach adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock a. m. Prayer by C. T. Starkey. Benediction by C. T. Starkey.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SUNDAY MORNING, SEPT. 30, 1900.

Association met pursuant to adjournment. Singing by D. S. Collins; prayer by M. Hill.

On motion of Milton Roach, Bro. G. W. Morris was chosen Moderator pro tem. Letters from Goose Pond and Gurley churches were read by Bro. R. L. Butler, and by motion were received and delegates enrolled.

A call was made by Moderator for reports from standing committees.

The report on Woman's Work was read by Mr. Roach as follows:

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

"We, your committee on Woman's Work, submit the following: Our search and researches are rewarded by the following facts: For something like a hundred years women have helped in their local societies in the Master's cause. The work began to spread further and further until 1860, when it took its present shape in the country at large. Twelve years ago the Woman's Mission Union was made an auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention, and we believe it to be one of the greatest forces for the prosecution of the Master's work. They collected and expended last year for Foreign Missions \$1,122.91; Home Missions \$2,808.91; State Missions \$1,119.29; Sunday School Board, \$184.60; Church Aid \$4,185.24; Mercy Home \$198.00; Charities \$82.80; Colored Missions, \$1.50; Total collected and expended, \$9,706.25. Now, brethren, we bring this work nearer home and show what organized woman's work has done in our own Association. The Ladies' Aid Society of Scottsboro, have collected and expended for all purposes \$80.60. The Ladies' Aid Society of Friendship Church has collected and expended \$113.00, which was organized last January, 1900. The Ladies' Aid Society, of Pisgah church, organized but a short time, reports \$5.00.

"We ask the pastors of this Association to see that there is a Ladies' Aid Society organized in every church. And we recommend that they be made auxiliary to the Tennessee River Association, that they be recognized and encouraged to represent their societies by delegation annually at the sittings of the Tennessee River Baptist Association."

Respectfully submitted,

MILTON ROACH,

J. W. ROREX,

Committee.

On motion to adopt the report, Brothers C. T. Starkey and W. L. Crawford spoke on the subject. Adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, submit the following:

The condition of our Sunday Schools in the bounds of this Association is such as to put us to thinking, planning and praying. The problem of the Sunday School grows in magnitude and seriousness when we consider the grandeur and sacredness of its mission, the field it pre-empted and the call it pretends to answer.

From the Church Jetties to this Association we find that while the interest in Sunday Schools is on the increase, which is very gratifying, it is not what we would like to see. We think that every member of every church should be heartily engaged in this work; that there should be no struggling or straggling or flagging in this line of work in any of our churches, but that each and every one should go forward.

We have a membership of about 1,500 good Baptist people. A little over half of that number are at work in the Sabbath Schools. It is apparent that there confronts us a problem demanding earnest and careful consideration. How to put in operation the Church School agency in this untouched territory, and how to make it more effective where it is already in operation is the task facing us. We dare not shut our eyes to the imperative demands upon us to make the most of this potential agent in our Church growth and power. Let it be remembered that the Sunday School is almost exclusively the recruiting force of the Church of today. In looking back over the history of the Sunday School may we not thank God, should we not thank God, for its glorious results? But what of the future? The century is dying and it has a great account to render, but another and greater century is about to come into existence. The Twentieth century shall be wonderful in commerce, wonderful in civilization, wonderful in science, wonderful in literature, wonderful in philosophy and wonderful in the furtherance of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What shall be the attitude? What shall be the equipment and the consecration of the Sunday School hosts of the Lord as the twentieth century dawns upon us? What organization is equal to the Sunday School in the enlargement and building up of the Redeemer's Kingdom. Our constituency is largely made up of children and youth. Our business is to save and train the

children and youth for Christ. How rich the field? How hopeful the outlook in the light of prevention, in the light of service, in the light of salvation, and in the light of reward. How blessed is the work of winning the young people for Christ. What shall be the future of the Sunday School organization? Its aim is world-wide, its text book is world-wide and its blessings are intended to be world-wide. To earnest workers we would say: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

Your committee recommend to all our churches the periodicals published by the Sunday School Board of Nashville, Tenn., and American Baptist Publication Society, Atlanta, Ga.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN T. RICHARDS,

W. R. MIDDLETON,

Committee.

On motion to adopt, J. T. Richards, W. W. Howard, M. Hill, V. Bouldin, A. B. Womack, John Cooper spoke on the subject, at the close of which the report was adopted.

A motion was offered by C. T. Starkey that the report on Ministerial and Denominational Education of 1899, which had been adopted by this body on yesterday, be reconsidered. Carried. Motion was then made to rescind the action of this body in the adoption of that report. Motion carried.

Report of Committee on Ministerial and Denominational Education was read by Virgil Bouldin.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL AND DENOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Tim. 2:15. Again the apostle exhorted the young preacher to devote himself to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. The Savior spent three years, with all his wisdom and power, teaching his disciples, before committing to them the great work of his kingdom and even after his ascension they were still directed to wait until they were imbued with power by the gift of the Holy Ghost before they began preaching the word. These examples and lessons impress us that the Savior did not leave his work in

untried hands, nor intend that the destiny of man, his eternal weal or woe, should rest upon other than those who had undergone the severest preparation of heart and mind. If it be said that the disciples were illiterate fishermen, we may answer that divine wisdom saw in them material for His work, unbiased and unperverted by the false philosophy and theology of the day, men in whom he could implant His sacred truth without first weeding out an untold mass of error and prejudice. So it may be at this day, and indeed it does seem to be true that the poor, the humble and the illiterate are more often called into His work than the wealthy and the highly favored, as the world views it. But this fact does not lead to the conclusion that God wants the untrained and unlearned in the ministry. It merely means that here is material out of which his ministers are to be made, and to be made in the same way that he made them while on earth, viz: by constant, prayerful teaching through example, and precept; by oft rebuking and trying of their faith. If any man can show that he has been taught in such a school as the disciples were, we will raise no question as to his preparation to preach the gospel. Since the disciples were so taught, and the Savior committed his cause to his people under his guidance, we insist that Paul's injunction to Timothy to "study" and to "read," because a part of the necessary preparation of him who is to divide the word of truth, it is the duty of the churches to see to it that these things are done by every one who goes forth by their authority to assume the untold responsibility of teaching the way of salvation. By the calling of the poor God in his wisdom gives to the churches the opportunity and imposes the duty to aid in preparing the called for the work. This duty has been entirely omitted, like many other of our divinely appointed duties, by the churches of this Association. The Committee recommend that the churches be requested by this body to take at least one collection during the next year for ministerial education. Your committee feels that God in his gracious mercy and love, will in the future, and now is, calling young men into his vineyard to fill the places being made vacant by his calling home to rest many of our old brethren who have borne the heat and burden of the day through all these years. Many of our brethren have endured neglect, and have battled on like valiant soldiers of the cross without assistance and aid to make higher preparation for

the work until they are falling exhausted into their graves still upholding the banner against odds, and are beseeching the churches in their names to arouse to a sense of duty, that the next generation of godly ministers may not battle under the disadvantages of the present. In conclusion we caution the churches against hasty action in laying hands upon a member to set him apart to the work of the ministry. No one should receive the benefits of a fund for ministerial education until he has proven himself in all the attributes suited to his calling, such as intense personal piety, humility, an earnest seeking after truth, aptness in teaching and that fervent, unquenchable desire for the salvation of souls, which will insure his growth in usefulness by reason of assistance in preparation. The churches must judge of the fitness, and must be responsible for any misuse of funds upon those who drift out of the work and show no fruit for the labor bestowed upon them. We exhort the brethren to a prayerful consideration of the suggestions of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

VIRGIL BOULDIN,

Chairman.

A motion was made to adopt the report, and after being discussed in a forcible and able manner by C. T. Starkey, J. A. Eaves and M. Hill, pledges and cash were taken to the amount of \$60.00 for Ministerial Education, after which motion was adopted.

A motion was entertained and carried to adjourn until 2 o'clock p. m. for preaching.

After singing Bro. W. L. Crawford took the stand for preaching, and read a part of the 17th chapter of St. John; text 17, 18 and 19th verses of the chapter read. As the church would not accommodate all, Bro. D. S. Collins preached to a large assembly in the grove. After preaching a collection was taken up for Missions; amount collected \$27.00.

At the conclusion of the services, Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Report on Religious Literature called for and read by Bro. J. F. McCarrell.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We, your committee to report on Religious Literature, submit the following: Religious Literature is the greatest source of information, that we have outside the preaching of the gospel.

Discrimination between corrupt literature and pure is of the most important interest. The letters of the different churches show so few taking our religious papers. If we would be intelligent Baptists, let us suggest the patronage of literature, published by Baptist Publication Societies. We, therefore, recommend, above all a close study of the Bible. In addition thereto, we urge our Baptist people to take the State organ, The Alabama Baptist, the Foreign Mission Journal, Richmond, Va.; Home Field, Atlanta, Ga.; together with our Sunday School Literature, Nashville, Tenn. We would not forget to mention the Texas Baptist Standard and Western Recorder; and we, as ministers, should urge upon the churches the importance of reading Baptist literature, and as parents we should place it in reach of our children.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. MCCARRELL,

Chairman.

A motion was made to adopt the report, upon which Bros. J. F. McCarrell and W. L. Crawford made good talks. Report was adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee ask leave to submit the following on the subject: In the minds of your committee there is no one virtue of more importance to the Baptists and the Christian world generally than the subject of Temperance. We find that the immoderate use of strong drink has done more mischief in our country than any other evil, and the members of some of our churches, are not entirely free from it, but we thank God that some of our churches are taking a noble stand against this gigantic evil. We would then recommend that this Association exclude from her fellowship any church or churches that knowingly hold in their fellowship any member or members that habitually use liquors to the detriment of other christian characters.

Respectfully submitted,

L. B. IRVIN,

R. M. HIGGINBOTHAM,

Committee.

On motion to adopt, discussion was had in a forcible and able manner by L. B. Irvin, R. M. Higginbotham, Virgil Bouldin. Pending the adoption of the report, the report was amended, on motion by Virgil Bouldin, by adding:

Be it Resolved, By the Tennessee River Baptist Association, including the territory of Jackson County, that the next General Assembly of Alabama is hereby memorialized and petitioned to pass an act to prohibit the manufacture, sale, exchange or giving away of spirituous, vinous, or malt liquors, or intoxicating drinks or beverages within and throughout the county of Jackson, State of Alabama. The report as amended was adopted by a rising vote.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made report as follows: Bro. G. W. Morris to preach at this church at 7:30; Bro. L. B. Irvin, at Kennamere's Chapel; Bro. James McCloud at Hurt's Chapel; Bro. M. Hill, Shipp's Chapel; Bro. Thos. Caves, at Bethany; Bro. D. S. Collins, at Hollywood, colored.

A motion was entertained and the Association adjourned until 9 o'clock a. m. tomorrow morning. Benediction by Moderator.

FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

MONDAY MORNING, OCT. 1, 1900.

Association called to order by Moderator.

Prayer by John T. Richards.

A letter was read by Milton Roach from Mt. Ararat Baptist Church. On motion the letter was received.

The report of the Executive Board was read by Bro. W. L. Crawford.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Dear Brethren, we are happy to report that during the past year we have employed Brethren Mike Hill and D. S. Collins for a part of their time. They have labored at Smalley's School House, Langston, Mt. Carmel, Wood's Cove, Beech Grove School House.

Bro. Hill has labored fifty-five days, for which we have paid him \$55.00. Bro. D. S. Collins has labored 34 days. Have paid him \$34.00. Through the labors of these brethren we have effected the conversion of 32 people and 29 baptisms, for which we thank God and take encourage and press forward, inviting the several

churches to join in this God-given work. We have collected \$74.78, and have paid out \$74.00, \$5.00 of which has been paid to Brother James McCloud.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. CRAWFORD, for the Board.

On motion to adopt, Brethren W. L. Crawford and D. S. Collins spoke at some length very forcible upon the subject, at the close of which the report was adopted.

Report on Obituaries was read by M. Roach as follows :

REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

We, your committee on Obituaries, submit the following:

Death has again made its inroad into the membership of this Association and has taken quite a number of our beloved brethren and sisters, to wit :

Gurley church, seven, no names given.

Freedom, one, Sister Sallie A. Reid.

Trenton, one, Brother L. E. Smith.

Beech Grove, one, Brother A. Sisk.

Mt. Nebo, two, no names.

Friendship, one, Sister Margaret Bently.

Harmony, one, Sister Elizabeth Emery, aged 75 years.

Center Point, one, Brother Anderson Dicus.

Scottsboro, two, Sister Bennie C. Jacobs, Brother L. C. Bailey.

Bethel, two, Sisters A. Inglis, Rushie McCarver.

Hollywood, three.

Bethany, one, Brother W. W. Christian.

Mt. Ararat, two, Sisters Margaret Isbell, Amanda Loving.

Total, 25.

We would ask the church clerks again to report the names of their dead.

Dear brethren, let this remind us that death is abroad in the land ; therefore, let us improve our opportunities as they come ; as a tree falleth so shall it lie, and as we lie down in death so shall the judgment find us. Respectfully submitted.

MILTON ROACH,

JOHN G. SANDERS,

Committee.

Report on Finance was read by W. H. Harris, as follows :

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, your committee on Finance, report money received for printing minutes, from the several churches, as follows:

Beech Grove, 50c.; Bethel, \$2.20; Bethany, \$1.50; Center Point, \$1.00; Campbell Chapel, 25c.; Cave Spring, \$1.00; Centennial —; Ebenezer —; Freedom, \$2.00; Friendship, \$2.00; Gurley, \$1.50; Goose Pond, 60c.; Hollywood, \$1.65; Harmony, \$1.50; Helton Memorial, 50c.; Larkinsville, \$1.10; Mt. Nebo, \$1.80; Mt. Zion, \$1.25; Mt. Pisgah, \$1.15; Mt. Ararat, 50c.; Mt. Tabor, 75c.; Mountain Grove —; New Hope —; Scottsboro, \$2.00; Trenton, \$1.00; Mt. Carmel, 25c. Total, \$26.40.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. HARRIS,
S. R. CORN,
Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

It was reported that there is one indigent minister, S. M. Hastings, within the bounds of our Association who needs special care. A motion was entertained by the Association. While Bro. D. S. Collins sang "There is a fountain filled with blood" a collection was taken up for the brother. Amount collected, \$5.78.

A motion was made and carried that the amount of money that the Clerk had paid over and above the amount contributed for printing the minutes be collected and paid back. Amount collected, \$5.10. Thank you, brethren.

By motion of Brother M. Hill a collection was taken up to supplement the printing fund. Amount collected, \$4.60.

A motion was entertained and carried that the Clerk retain the names of all the delegates that attended the Association.

On motion, the Association proceeded to select a place for holding the next Fifth Sunday meeting. By motion, Bethel Church was chosen. The program of the next Fifth Sunday meeting was read by Rev. W. L. Crawford, and on motion was ordered printed in the Progressive Age. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolution by W. L. Crawford:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be and are hereby tendered the Moderator and Clerk of this Association for the

faithful and efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties of their offices.

Resolution by D. S. Collins:

Resolved, That the delegates composing the Tennessee River Association tender the members of Hollywood church, and the people generally, their heartfelt thanks for the open-hearted hospitality extended them during the deliberations of this body. Adopted by rising vote.

The membership heartily responded to every duty, and may God bless the Church, and may its future be full of usefulness and activity for Jesus our Lord.—CLERK.

The names of the delegates enrolled were not called and corrected, hence a correct roll cannot be given. The churches were generally well represented. Most of the delegates appointed by their churches were present during the session.

MINISTERIAL DELEGATES PRESENT.

P. Brown, W. L. Crawford, D. S. Collins, Thomas Caves, J. A. Eaves, M. Hill, Jos. Hill, R. Howell, R. M. Higginbotham, L. B. Irvin, G. W. Morris, James McCloud, J. F. McCarrell, John T. Richards, C. T. Starkey, W. H. Varnell—16 being present.

Resolution by W. L. Crawford:

Resolved, That the Tennessee River Association do now adjourn to meet with Trenton Church, Jackson County, Alabama, Friday after the Fourth Sunday in September, 1901.

The Moderator announced that the business of the Association had been completed, and after a few remarks the Association sang "How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord," and united in a hearty, fraternal hand-shaking, after which prayer was offered by Brother W. L. Crawford. After prayer Rev. D. S. Collins sang, all joining, "God be with you till we meet again." Benediction by the Moderator, and the Association stood adjourned.

JNO. T. RICHARDS,
Clerk.

P. BROWN,
Moderator.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF THE TENNESSEE RIVER ASSOCIATION.

DEBTOR.

Oct. 29, 1899.	Received from	L. B. Irvin	\$ 2 00
" " "	" "	J. F. McCarrell	25
" " "	" "	W. D. Rorex.	1 00
" " "	" "	Fifth Sunday collection at Scottsboro	11 95
Oct. 29, 1899.	Received from	Friendship Church.	5 00
" " "	" "	Joseph Smalley	20 00
" " "	" "	Jim Inglis	2 00
" " "	" "	Miss Tennie Card	50
" " "	" "	W. B. Campbell	1 00
" " "	" "	Mt. Nebo Church.....	1 30
" " "	" "	Fifth Sunday meeting at New Hope.....	4 83
Oct. 29, 1899.	Received from	Harmony Church.....	2 50
July 27, 1900.	Received from	Mt. Pisgah Church at the Fifth Sunday meeting at Freedom.	4 00
Sept. 28, 1900.	Rec'd. from	Friendship Church.....	4 85
" " "	" "	Harmony Church.....	7 64
" " "	" "	Ladies Aid Society, Friend- ship Church.	10 00
Sept. 28, 1900.	Rec'd from	Sunday collection, Associa- tion Hollywood.....	26 95
Sept. 28, 1900.	Rec'd. from	Mt. Nebo Church, Associa- tional Missions	5 00
Sept. 28, 1900.	Rec'd. from	Mt. Ararat Church, Associa- tional Missions.....	1 08
Sept. 28, 1900.	Rec'd. from	Henry Harris, Associational Missions	21 82
Sept. 28, 1900.	Rec'd. from	Henry Harris, Home Miss's.	3 00
" " "	" " "	" " Foreign "	7 32
" " "	" " "	Scottsboro Church, Foreign Missions	8 47
Sept. 28, 1900.	Rec'd. from	Mt. Moriah Church, Foreign Missions	1 00
Total			\$153 46

CREDIT.

Nov. 24, 1899.	Paid balance on horse note.....	\$ 28 21
" " "	" Bro. M. Hill at New Hope....	15 00
" " "	" Bro. D. S. Collins.....	3 00
Sept. 28, 1900.	" Bro. Hill at Hollywood.....	17 47
" " "	" Bro. D. S. Collins at Hollywood..	11 00
" " "	" Bro. James McCloud at Hollywood	5 00
" " "	" W. B. Crumpton at Hollywood....	20 00

Total credits..... \$99 68

Balance due the Association for Associational Missions \$53 76

Respectfully submitted.

MILTON ROACH, Treasurer,
Tennessee River Association.



STATISTICS OF TENNESSEE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1900.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE.	Membership Last Reported.	Increase		Decrease		Percent Membership.	SUNDAY SCHOOLS.		Reports revival. Reports prayer meeting. Preaching Sabbaths.				
						Baptism	Transfer	Restoration Voucher	Exclusion		Death	Officers and Teachers.				Pupils.	
																	SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME AND POSTOFFICE.
Beech Grove.....	Jackson	W L Crawford.....	G E Kilpatrick.....	Francisco, Ala.....	98				5	1	1	91	Union Sunday School, A W Pogue.....	2			
Bethel.....		"	"	"	"	91	10	7	6	1	2	2	109	A M McCarver, Carna, Ala.....	2-4	yes.	
Bethany.....		"	L M Salone.....	J W Kuykendall.....	Scottsboro.....	23	18	3	3	1	1	45	S S Pnear, Hollywood, Ala.....				
Cave Spring.....		"	R Howell.....	Issac Mathews.....	Coffey's Store.....	87						85	J Lee Morris, Coffey's Store, Ala.....				
Centre Point.....		"	M Hill.....	W J Cunningham.....	Scottsboro.....	54	11			15	1	49	Reports Sunday School.....	4			
Campbell's Chapel.....		"	D S Collins.....	R L Borough.....	Scottsboro.....	11						11		3	yes.		
Centennial.....		"				65											
Ebenezer.....		"				26											
Freedom.....		"	J R Lamb.....	Raymond Reid.....	Estill Fork, Ala.....	147	1			5	4	1	188	Reports Sunday School.....	1	yes.	
Friendship.....		"	W L Crawford.....	W R Middleton.....	Carna.....	188				2	1	125	J B Campbell, A P Womack, Fackler.....	1-8			
Gurley.....	Madison Jackson	W H Pettus.....	W T Roberts.....	Gurley.....	118	8	4		6	3	14	7	100	W T Roberts, Gurley, Ala.....	2-4	yes.	
Goose Pond.....		"	M Hill.....	J L Walsh.....	Parks Store.....	18				1		17		2			
Hollywood.....		"	RM Higginbotham.....	G W Chapman.....	Hollywood.....	78	1	4		1	3	8	77	S R Corn, Hollywood, Ala.....	1	yes. yes.	
Harmony.....		"	R Howell.....	John G Sanders.....	Mud Creek.....	50					1	52	Report Sunday School.....	8	yes. yes.		
Helton Memorial.....		"	R Howell.....	P A Coffey.....	Coffey's Store.....	15	1	8	3			17	9	10	T F Russell, Coffey's Store, Ala.....	2	yes. yes.
Larkinsville.....		"	W H Varnell.....	Mamie Larkin.....	Larkinsville.....	18						18			Reports Union Sunday School.....		
Mountain Grove.....		"															
Mt Nebo.....		"	J R Lamb.....	R C Horton.....	Hollytree, Ala.....	102				10	3	2	87	J P Cunningham, Holly Tree, Ala.....			
Mt Pisgah.....		"	Jno T Richards.....	John B Ellis.....	Pisgah.....	182				1		181	6	58	Jno T Richards, Pisgah, Ala.....	4	yes.
Mt Ararat.....		"	W A Pigg.....	W P Culver.....	Culver.....	84				10		2	22		2		
Mt Tabor.....	"	Thos Cave.....	J L Ruckner.....		49	1					51			Report Union Sunday School.....		yes.	
Mt Zion.....	"	James McClond.....	C R Flowers.....	Section, Ala.....	63	8	2		1	2	71				3	yes.	
Mt Moriah.....	"	J F McCarrell.....	A J Evett.....	Nila.....	68				1	3	59	65	3	S S, T C Howell, N D Lamb, Nila.....	2		
Mt Carmel.....	"		F M Williams.....	Bolivar.....	7						7				3	yes.	
New Hope.....	"	R Howell.....	A F Terry.....	Bloomington.....	56				1		55				4		
Scottsboro.....	"	C T Starkey.....	W W Howard.....	Scottsboro.....	50	5	1			2	54	6	40	W W Howard, Scottsboro, Ala.....	1-3	yes. yes.	
Trenton.....	"	J R Lamb.....	T F Berry.....	Trenton.....	52	12	3	1		2	1	65		3	yes. yes.		
Total.....					1567	98	81	9	18	61	21	17	25	1496	48	378	

NOTE—I give the reports as I find them in your letters to the Association. A careful examination of the letters was made to avoid any mistake. The decrease in membership is due to several of the churches not reporting. Brother clerks, do not fail to give a record of your church. The statistics show a decrease of 71 which should not be, and would not be, had all the churches made a full and accurate report.—CLERK.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF TENNESSEE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, FOR YEAR 1900.

MISSIONS.							EDUCATION		HOME EXPENSES.						TOTAL.	VALUE OF PROPERTY.
CHURCH.	STATE. Cash and Voucher	HOME. Cash and Voucher	FOREIGN. Cash and Voucher	CHURCH BUILDINGS (Not at Home)	ASSOCIA- TIONAL.	LADIES AID SOCIETY.	Minis- terial	Orphan's Home	Minutes	Pastors Salary	Build- ings	Repairs and New	Schools, Etc.	Poor, Fuel, Sunday		
Beech Grove.....	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	4.50			\$			\$.50	\$600 00
Bethel.....					9 05				2 20	125 00		21 88		5 16	163 86	500 00
Bethany.....		2 72							1 54						4 22	
Cave Spring.....		1 65							1 00					1 25	4 90	250 00
Centre Point.....					2 00				1 00	18 00					21 00	
Camel's Chapel.....					2 42				75						3 17	
Centennial.....																
Ebenezer.....																
Freedom.....					10 00				2 00	100 00				30 00	182 40	1000 00
Friendship.....		18 00		10 00				118 00	2 00	125 00		52 00		16 80	248 80	300 00
Gurley.....			3 80						1 50	182 40		20 00		42 62	190 52	2000 00
Goose Pond.....									60						.60	
Hollywood.....					5 00				1 65	10 50			50		17 65	500 00
Harmony.....			7 64		8 25				1 50	49 00		67 35		4 10	137 84	
Helton's Memorial.....		8 00							50	85 00				2 00	40 50	1000 00
Larkinsville.....					8 50				1 10	10 75		65 00		7 00	92 85	
Mountain Grove.....																
Mt. Nebo.....			5 00						1 85	40 00		6 00		3 00	54 85	
Mt. Pisgah.....			3 89		4 00	5 00			1 10	10 00		700 00		11 63	719 05	1000 00
Mt. Ararat.....					1 68				50	9 42					11 00	500 00
Mt. Zion.....									1 25	17 00		30 00			48 25	900 00
Mt. Moriah.....			1 00						1 00	12 00				4 05	18 05	160 00
Mt. Tabor.....									75	30 00					20 75	
Mt. Carmel.....					5 00				25	1 55					7 80	
New Hope.....		2 20								25 00					27 20	
Scottsboro.....	.50	46 80	14 82		2 90	4 42		96 00	2 00	150 00				98 85	349 24	1000 00
Trenton.....									1 00	50 00					51 00	
Total.....	\$.50	\$99 87	\$15 85	\$2 90	\$54 72	\$204 00	\$6 00	\$88 25	3750	\$62 78	\$62 78	\$200 88			\$ 152 80	\$000 00

Collection on Sunday at Hollywood, for Missions,

Collection at the Association for Ministerial Education,

Total

26 95

60 00

\$2 230 75